

# PRESS RELEASE

## **Manhattan Beach Unified School District**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MBUSD Board of Trustees Members Fournell and Komatinsky Begin New Terms on December 7**

**Manhattan Beach, CA, September 5, 2011—**

Two seats on the Manhattan Beach Unified School District's Board of Trustees were up for election this year on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The seats open were occupied by current Board President Bill Fournell, who was elected in 2007, and Karen Komatinsky, who was appointed to replace Amy Howorth in 2010.

Mr. Fournell and Ms. Komatinsky were the only two candidates to file their papers for the two seats available. The County Registrar has informed MBUSD that Ms. Komatinsky and Mr. Fournell shall stay in their positions, and will be officially seated at the Board's organizational meeting on December 7, 2011. Their new term will expire in 2015.

Ms. Karen Komatinsky stated, "Although our community and State are in for some bumpy times, I am thrilled to be moving forward in this role with other educational leaders. I am deeply honored and appreciative of the support and encouragement received by friends, colleagues, teachers, staff and all of the new faces in the community, and I am looking to build on those working partnerships over these next four years. We have an amazing community, filled with bright, talented and passionate people, all working to make our schools exceptional. I am excited about continuing to further understand the needs and explore the riches in our current school system and hope to build more into what we already do so well!"

Bill Fournell noted, "I am so grateful to have the opportunity to serve another four years on the MBUSD Board of Trustees. These last four years have been challenging, but it has been incredibly rewarding to contribute to the outstanding results our district continues to achieve. Giving back to my hometown has truly been one of the highlights of my life. I am excited to continue the good work helping to maximize the educational opportunities and experiences of the students in our district. In particular, I look forward to continuing the culture of collaboration and partnership with our community, parents, educational and athletic foundations,

administration, teachers, and staff that is so critical to the success of our district and that makes this job so rewarding."

Because Mr. Fournell and Ms. Komatinsky were the only two individuals who submitted the requisite paperwork to run for the two open Board positions, MBUSD is able to avoid the \$25,000 approximate cost of holding an election to fill the seats.

### **About the Manhattan Beach Unified School District**

Manhattan Beach Unified School District ranks as the third highest performing unified school district in the State of California with a 2011 Growth Academic Performance Index (API) of 932. MBUSD serves nearly 7,000 students from preschool to twelfth grade at eight school campuses—one preschool, five elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Mira Costa High School's API of 911 places it in the top 1.3% of public high schools in California, and it was named number fifteen in ESPN's "Fab 50" High Schools in the Unified States in 2010 for its superior athletic programs. In addition to outstanding students and excellent teachers, MBUSD is extremely fortunate to have a high level of parental involvement in the schools and very strong partnerships with the Manhattan Beach Education and Athletic Foundations, the City of Manhattan Beach, Chevron, Northrop Grumman, Continental Development, the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations and businesses. More information about MBUSD is available at [www.mbusd.org](http://www.mbusd.org).